

INSTITUTUM  
SERO-BACTERIOLOGICUM  
UNIVERSITATIS

HELSINKI

Helsinki April 20, 1961

Dear Esther and Josh,

We now seem to have been at home long enough to start recalling memories from Stanford and United States. A couple of days ago our son Yucca first time asked: When will we go back to our green home again? (He still prefers to speak English.) Some days earlier his elder brother happened to remember that he had promised to send his American teacher a postcard from Lappland.

Our stay at Stanford was so rich and enjoyable that Helen and I are almost prepared to join Jukka in his exclamation (not quite, it is nice to be at home as well). Members of our family have certainly be the most careful watchers of our slides - we put two copies in this letter.

The journey back to Finland was delightful, we saw Grand Canyon, Arizonan Saguaros and New Mexican Yuccas but did not see Joshua trees. We arrived in Washington in time but yet too late to see the Inauguration. Finally we saw New York completely paralyzed by snow which perhaps was best of all.

Back home it was easy to start normal living at home but to start work at lab seems to take plenty of time. The instruments and even chemicals are slow to arrive. Meanwhile we have had a jolly time. Helen defended her thesis very successfully, and the subsequent festivities went all right. I have prepared a funny little manuscript with my boss. It is a statistical study which tries to demonstrate that something like immunization may be a factor affecting the human sex ratio. I will send you a copy of this manuscript.

US Public Health Service was good to us and gave the Returning Fellow's Grant. Thus we will probably get everything which we urgently need. This may turn out not to be our last pleasant contact with United States, we recently received a letter from Madison which informed us about a young immunologist's desire to work with us in Helsinki. Dr. Otten wrote about it.

- I met Norton Zinder in New York. He was not interested in Salmonella recombination any more, but the more interested in his DNA phage. I thought originally that there would be no hurry with my manuscript. Now it appears that I could apply for a rather good research job sponsored by the Finnish government and would actually be in need of publications. Maybe it would be worth while for you to send the paper to me for retyping after which it would be easier for you to go through it.

Please give our regards to Jo Holsti and all the others

Yours *elli* Helen